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into power, exercise so remorselessly their power to suppress a press that dares to question the soviet methods or ideals.

Not content with this active "propaganda" policy for a world-wide revolution putting workers in power throughout the world, the forces back of it have lately disclosed another detail of their tactics. Paris, New York, Buenos Aires, Lima, and Tokio have recently seen radical labor induce "shut-downs" that have seriously crippled the "press" of those cities; and during London's recent railway strike the Northcliffe press was threatened by "labor" if it persisted in editorial denunciation of the workers. We do not mean to intimate that British printers and compositors are in the class with the Russian Bolshevik; but it is true that all groups of workers throughout the world are dissatisfied with the treatment given to "labor" by the average newspaper, that they are preparing to alter the situation, and that, if need be, they will cripple production of the "capitalistic" press.

INADEQUATE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION

CABLE, wireless, and air transportation of news—political, diplomatic, industrial, commercial, and general—during the "World War" period has proved quite insufficient to meet the demand made upon existing agencies. War wastage, banning of private codes, inordinately long governmental messages, to quote Sir Charles Bright, speaking at the British Association recently, have brought about an appalling congestion in the world's cable traffic, causing complications many and costly, and not markedly relieved now, one year after the armistice. Consequently it is not at all surprising that there should be at present much maneuvering to retain possession of cables taken over from Germany, and much talk of the construction of new cable lines around the world, especially those under Pacific waters, inasmuch as Japan, China, Siberia, and India become ever-increasing factors in provoking happenings of which Europe and America wish to be accurately and fully informed. But along with this demand for better cable service there also is insistent clamor for further linking up of the wireless systems, so that there may be full competition between the two forms of service over practically the same area; and inasmuch as the capital outlay for this system is so much less than for a cable system, it may be the first to furnish relief, and in ways that prior to the war would not have been urged. Thus the Navy Department of the United States stands eager and ready now to do commercial business with its up-to-date radio system, providing Congress will assent; and it is likely to do so sooner or later, if the cable and regular wireless companies practice extortion on the public. Add to new cable and wireless facilities the

service which aviation has proved that it can give, on a commercial basis, over both long and short routes, and it is easy to understand what Sir Charles Bright meant when he said that the time had come when air stations were as important as coaling stations for the future British Empire. Every railway line between Washington and San Francisco may go out of business as a mail-carrier, every telegraph and telephone line between the two cities can cease to operate; but by wireless and by aviation the Executive can communicate with the Pacific coast in time of domestic industrial war or foreign invasion. Similarly, London now knows that men can fly to "The Cape" if estopped from going by rail.

In this connection we may remind ourselves of the need of greater wireless and cable service, especially between this country and the Orient, the same being true of our means of communication with South America. American business men need to know the facts out of Japan, China, and our sister republics of the South. Our statesmen need these facts; the peace of the world may depend upon our getting them, and that right early.

UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING AGAIN

THERE is no reason for the American people to be deceived about the design of the militarists to militarize the high schools of our country. In the local high schools in Washington, for example, a lieutenant from the Sixth Regiment of Marines, with overseas service, has been appointed military instructor. Fresh from the scene of the world war, he is planning a number of changes in the work of the cadets, as he says, "to make them as nearly as possible a military organization." Among his plans, frankly stated to the public press, is "to make the war game, or lessons in military science, played by the cadet officers conform to the latest methods of warfare. . . . War games are played by the officers on maps. They are not unlike chess, but more interesting, because the pins the players move about represent armies, and nearly all moves are made on mathematical calculations." A rifle association among the cadets completes the circuit.

The American Legion, which potentially represents the 4,000,000 men who served in the army that either went or prepared to go to France to fight Germany and Austria, has just had its first national convention. The organization has steered clear of politics thus far; it has made no distinctions of caste between ranks or kinds of service in the war; it evaded taking sides on the vexed issue of paying bonuses to all combatants, whether injured or not; it went on record against conscription in time of peace, and it also endorsed universal military training as a "preparedness" measure.

We regret the inclusion of this last item in an otherwise excellent platform. We suspect its insertion after considerable manipulation of opinion by the professional and war-seeking group. Left to themselves, the rank and file would not have assumed to set up compulsory schooling in war in a land that is set as this one in its opposition to war *per se*. We doubt whether a referendum of the membership of the Legion, taken by secret ballot, would sustain the act of the convention. It runs counter to the privately expressed and publicly disclosed opinions of the "doughboys."

Re-enforced by this formal declaration of the Legion at its Minneapolis meeting, there will be an effort at the December session of Congress to get federal sanction for the plan. Then it must be thoroughly debated, and lawmakers must be forced to go on record *pro* or *con*. Congress may order it, but a national referendum would not. Time is on the side of opponents of the measure; for every week adds to the deepening distrust of the masses for any scheme that stresses resort to force or puts trust in diplomacy as a way out for humanity to the land of peace. The era of disillusionment has come. The direct and indirect costs of the war are proving to be staggering. The secret motives and ambitions of men and nations are being made apparent by extraordinary loquacity of public men and unprecedented quick access to the national archives of Russia and Germany. Last, but not least, communism's challenge to the established order of society in western Europe and America is forcing peoples to forget the issue of adequate or inadequate preparation for war in defense of country. Rather must they think of how to defend home possessions, how to hold society together, how to protect the family, and guard legitimate savings.

Surprising as are the lengths to which budding militarists in the United States would go in their efforts to foist military training upon pupils in the schools of the country, it is gratifying to note how quickly they are thwarted when appeal is made to the law. Apropos action taken by the board of education of the city of Cleveland, Ohio, the State superintendent of education recently applied to the Attorney-General of the State to know whether there was any authority in law for the school board's course.

The answer was that boards of education may not legally set up military training in schools by resting their case on the physical education section of the existing school law; nor can a pupil be discriminated against in his general standing because he does not join a school military unit. Neither has a board of education the right to purchase military ordnance or to pay the expenses of physical training teachers at military camps. So much for the Attorney-General's formal opinion. He also let it be known that school boards may not con-

dition graduation of pupils on their sharing or not sharing in military courses. He ruled against forcing parents to disclose their attitude toward war *per se* or a given war in particular. As for requiring parents and pupils to acquire military millinery, lacking which the children might not become pupils, he kicked that proposition out the back door.

The scotching of this Cleveland snake's head has done good in the Buckeye State and beyond. Vigilance in such matters is the price of peace and of keeping this country in its wealth, power, and accentuated nationalism from getting in the way of moral decline and looking for causes of war.

THEODORE E. BURTON IN THE ORIENT

FORMER Senator Theodore E. Burton, for a number of years President of the American Peace Society, is now in the Orient. Of his visit to Japan, Baron Sakatani, referring to Mr. Burton's efforts in behalf of friendship between America and Japan, and welcoming him to a joint meeting of the American Peace Society of Japan and the Japan Peace Society, held at the Imperial Hotel, Tokio, October 1, said:

"This is a time of disturbance and misunderstanding in all countries which have intimate relations with the Orient. Senator Burton is cordially welcomed by us at such a period of great trouble. We believe his coming will be helpful in removing many of the misunderstandings which exist.

"We are very glad to hear that Mr. Burton intends to visit China and Korea. We believe the message which he will take back to America, based, as we believe it will be, upon thorough investigation of facts, will help to solve some of the difficulties."

Mr. Burton has taken the position in a number of his speeches in Japan that the objections raised in California to the Japanese are not founded primarily in racial differences. The real reason is the demand of a powerful element to monopolize the labor of the State, and that for purposes of political expediency. He has characterized the California land laws as "political war cries."

In referring to peace and the peace treaty, Mr. Burton has said:

"It is but a short time ago that world peace was but an aspiration and a hope. The sufferings of the recent terrible war have wrought great changes in the attitude of the world toward war and today peace is nearer realization. The war was not so much a war against Germany as a contest between the idea that might makes right and the ideals of law and justice. War between nations must cease, as it has in the case of individuals."

Other points in Mr. Burton's message are the establishment of a court of justice for the settlement of international disputes, the limitation of armaments, delay where diplomacy has failed, the abolition of furtive and secret diplomacy, and a new era where the prestige of nations will be determined not by their military prowess, but by their achievements in trade, by their success in